

# notes



## Jump Start Coalition

3/2/2017

6:00pm – 7:00pm

NLR Community Center – 2700 Willow

### Updates

- Metroplan update
    - See website for RFQ/RFP for Engineering firms
    - Engineering contracts will be signed mid- to late March
    - Levy construction is set to begin in mid-2018 and Park Hill's in early 2019
  - Engineering firm correction – Levy/Crafton Tull and Park Hill/Garver
  - Park Hill Elementary update
    - Jenna brought an article from [Arkansasonline.com/Arkansas Democrat Gazette](http://Arkansasonline.com/Arkansas-Democrat-Gazette) about the sale of Park Hill Elementary to I-40 Kerr LLC for \$530,000.
  - UCA student videos
    - We watched all three of the UCA student videos created for the Park Hill Business and Merchants Association
    - Attendees offered comments on what they liked and things that could be improved in the future
  - Melissa Ervin, Director, NLR Community Development Agency, responded to some Coalition member questions from a previous meeting. See end of notes section for email communication.
  - Ozark Mission Project will be in NLR in June 2017 working on home improvement projects. Completed applications can be mailed to the address on the application or returned to Neighborhood Services. See website for homeowner request form and list of what they can and cannot work on.
  - Levy FOCUS Project
    - See website for original notice of FOCUS in Levy
    - 2/21 to 3/3
    - 33<sup>rd</sup> to 37<sup>th</sup>
    - Gave out smoke alarms, replaced batteries
    - Code, Animal Control issued 15 citations, Police, Sanitation has been running extra trucks, Streets worked on drains, Electric replaced 25 streetlights
    - Will monitor activity in problem areas and focus more on those in the future
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- Dan may approach UALR Institute of Government to collect data to measure long term impact of FOCUS efforts
- Levy Business Association has had architectural renderings done of the proposed city park near 37<sup>th</sup> and Doyle Veneble
  - Has a meeting scheduled with the Mayor to discuss it
  - Attendees mentioned that flooding issues need to be addressed
  - A central plaza was part of the Levy Jump Start Master Plan and Taggart did a rendering for one in “downtown” Levy where the triangular parcel of land is with the check cashing business
- Park Hill Business and Merchants Association is holding elections this month for President/Secretary/Board Member
  - Also discussing whether to continue with Patio events, and if so, how
- Park Hill Neighborhood Association will host Carlton Wing at the next meeting
- Neighbors United For Levy will host Peggy Hogg of the Levy Merchants Association to further discuss the park plan at the next meeting
- Be sure and check out the new business in Park Hill: North Bar
- The City of NLR still has free bike racks available for interested businesses. See website for form.
- Be sure to read your NLR Neighborhood Newsletter – lots of great info
  - See website for March/April newsletter and calendar
  - If you aren't getting it contact [NLRNeighborhoodServ@nlr.ar.gov](mailto:NLRNeighborhoodServ@nlr.ar.gov)
- Reminder: Please 'Like' the Coalition Facebook page, as well as 'Share' things that you think would interest others, and be sure to 'Tag' us in your posts related to Park Hill and Levy
- Reminder: Sign up to receive Coalition info by visiting the Jump Start website ([www.nlr.ar.gov/jumpstart](http://www.nlr.ar.gov/jumpstart)) and signing up

## What's coming up?

- Neighbors United For Levy meetings
    - First Mondays – 6:30 – 7:30 pm – North Heights Community Center
  - Park Hill Neighborhood Association meetings
    - First Tuesdays – 6:00 – 7:00 pm – Idlewild Park Clubhouse
    - February meeting speaker – Leonard Montgomery, Director of Emergency Services, will provide info on NLR's 911 Communications Center
  - NLR Jump Start Coalition meetings
    - First Thursdays – 6:00 – 7:00 pm – NLR Community Center lecture room
    - 4/6, 5/4, 6/1, 7/6, 8/3, 9/7, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7
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# notes

- Tour de Bark event
  - April 29<sup>th</sup>
  - 10 am – 2 pm
  - Park Hill Baptist Church
  - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – CONTACT JOHN GREGAN

## Strategic Plan

- Completed a brainstorming/planning activity to begin working on each of the following identified 2017 Key Priority Actions – related to bicycle and pedestrian focused activities
- Anyone with ideas or interested in working on any of the following ideas please contact Jenna Rhodes at [jdrhodes@nlr.ar.gov](mailto:jdrhodes@nlr.ar.gov)
  - Bike Day / Bike Rodeo, possibly in partnership with Ridge Road Elementary and newly relocated Recycle Bikes for Kids
  - Walkability workshop around Ridge Road related to safe walk/bike routes to school as well as connections to Levy Trail and the future 4 park connector trail in Park Hill
  - Investigating ways to encourage the businesses along Levy Trail to connect to it with things such as benches, patios, outdoor seating, etc, and the ways in which the City can create incentives for those interested
  - 5k race, possibly on Levy Trail for at least some portion of it
  - Halloween Trail event on the Levy Trail, possibly in partnership with local churches and businesses
  - Investigating possibility of distance signage for both trails
  - Identifying grants or sponsorships for trash cans/benches/bicycle repair stations on the Levy Trail
  - Bernadette and Jenna will continue working to update the bicycle master plan to reflect: the desire to have a 4 park connector trail in Park Hill, for the Park Hill trail and the Levy Trail to connect, for both trails to connect on to other larger trails such as the River Trail
  - Bernadette and Jenna will continue to have ongoing communication with Metroplan and engineering firms to ensure that community desires are considered throughout the process, and that there is solid community participation at outreach events at 10, 50, and 90% completion

## Coalition Dates

- 4/6, 5/4, 6/1, 7/6, 8/3, 9/7, 10/5, 11/2, 12/7
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# notes

Ervin, Melissa

Actions

To:

[Rhodes, Jenna](#)

Attachments:

[CDBG programs.docx \(19 KB\)](#)[\[Open as Web Page\]](#)

partners

Monday, August 22, 2016 2:54 PM

Hi Jenna,

You had asked once before about distributing information on our programs. I believe at the time, we were low on funds and also had several applicants on our waiting lists. We just received our 2016 funding and while we still have people on our lists, we are in better shape now! I've attached information on the services we provide, if you would like to pass it on to your meeting attendees/members.

Thanks and have a good day!

Melissa

**Melissa Ervin**

Director, Community Development Agency

City of North Little Rock

116 Main Street

North Little Rock AR 72114

501.340.5342 phone

501.340.5345 fax

[mervin@nlr.ar.gov](mailto:mervin@nlr.ar.gov)

**Community Development Agency  
116 Main Street  
North Little Rock, AR 72114  
501-340-5342**

**Emergency Assistance Grant Program** - This program provides forgivable grants up to \$5,000 to homeowners living in North Little Rock who are in need of emergency related repairs to their home such as: sewer lines, water lines, electrical repairs, gas lines, and HVAC. Applicant must own their home and have resided at the property for at least the last twelve consecutive months, be income eligible, and live within the city limits of North Little Rock. Applicant will be required to submit a statement from a licensed technician detailing the problem and indicating the steps needed to repair the problem.

**Housing Repairs Program** - This program provides forgivable grants up to \$5,000 to homeowners living in North Little Rock who are in need of major roof repairs. Applicant must own their home and have resided at the property for at least twelve consecutive months, be income eligible, and live within the city limits of North Little Rock.

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# notes

**Weatherization Project** - This program provides forgivable grants up to \$2,000 to homeowners living in North Little Rock for blown-in attic insulation to attain energy savings. Applicant must own their home and have resided at the property for at least the last twelve consecutive months, be income eligible, and live within the city limits of North Little Rock.

**Handicapped Ramp Project** - This programs provides the building materials necessary for the construction of handicapped ramps for eligible individuals. The City works with a group of volunteers who provide the labor to build the ramps. Applicant must be income eligible and live within the city limits of North Little Rock.

Depending on the amount of grant funds spent on a project, a lien may be placed on the property; however, the lien amount will be 100% forgiven over time if requirements are met. We are unable to provide assistance on properties located within the 100 year flood plain. A copy of a recorded warranty deed is required as proof of ownership. Programs are for the benefit of low to moderate income households. Written documentation of income of household members is required to determine eligibility.

We will be happy to answer any questions you may have or provide additional information on our programs. We will mail you an application form or you may pick one up. Please call us at 340-5342 or visit our office at 116 Main Street. Our front door faces the City Services building's payment drive-through lane.

Rhodes, Jenna

[Actions](#)

To:

[Ervin, Melissa](#)

*Sent Items*

Friday, January 20, 2017 3:01 PM

Hi Melissa! Way back in August you sent me some information regarding some of the programs you all offer. I just stumbled across my notes from that meeting and I had forgotten to ask you a couple questions that came up from Coalition members. They were curious about two things: 1) What do you consider 'income eligible' for your programs; and 2) What are the requirements for grant forgiveness?

That's it! Thanks for any info you can share!

Jenna

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**Jenna D. Rhodes, MA, MPS, MPH**

*North Little Rock Jump Start Coordinator*

Cell 816.916.2325

Office 501.364.3360

Fax 501.975.8633

[jdrhodes@nlr.ar.gov](mailto:jdrhodes@nlr.ar.gov)

<http://nlr.ar.gov/jumpstart>

P.O. Box 5757

North Little Rock, AR 72119-5757

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# notes

Ervin, Melissa

[Actions](#)

**To:**

[Rhodes, Jenna](#)  
*partners*

Thursday, February 02, 2017 3:51 PM

You forwarded this message on 2/3/2017 11:35 AM.

Hey Jenna,

Sorry for my delay in responding. We are organizing our office because we are moving to a new location within the next month, so things are a bit hectic around here!

Our programs are for the benefit of households earning annual income at or below 80% of the area median income. The HUD income charts we used are based on household size. We receive updated income guidelines annually, so the amounts below may change slightly when the new figures come out later this year. To give you a few examples:

One person household:	\$35,200	maximum	household	income
Two person household:	\$40,200	"	"	"
Three person household:	\$45,250	"	"	"
Four person household:	\$50,250	"	"	"

The purpose of our programs is to provide assistance with a housing need in order to enable the homeowner to remain in the home. Basically, the home must serve as the applicant's primary residence for the term of the forgivable lien. A 5 year lien is forgiven 20% per year. If the homeowner sells the home during the 5 year period, the amount that would need to be paid back depends on how much has been forgiven at the time of sale. If the homeowner does not sell or rent the home during the 5 year period, and maintains the home as his principal residence, the lien will be 100% forgiven. A release deed will be mailed to the homeowner with instructions that he should have it recorded at the County courthouse.

Hope this information is helpful. Let me know if you need anything further!

Melissa

**Melissa Ervin**  
Director, Community Development Agency  
City of North Little Rock  
116 Main Street  
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501.340.5342 phone  
501.340.5345 fax  
[mervin@nlr.ar.gov](mailto:mervin@nlr.ar.gov)

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